

Duplicata

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“ Morbus, quum corpori inhærit, erit effectus corporeus Singularis determinatæ causæ.”

H. BOERHAVE.

— “ In tres partes medicina diducta est : ut una esset, quæ victu ; altera quæ medicamentis ; tertia, quæ manu mederetur.”

CELSUS.

“ Two words form the key of the Baconian doctrine—Utility and Progress.”

MACAULAY.

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On our Indigenous Medical Flora. I. Lobelia Inflata.

By ABR'M LIVEZEY, A.M., M.D.. Lumberville, Pa. Continued from page 88, and concluded.

Having spoken of some of the chief therapeutical uses of the Lobelia in the hands of the accoucheur and surgeon, I have only to point out its application in medical practice generally.

In convulsions of infants and children, when it is impracticable to administer medicines per orem, an infusion of lobelia per rectum will greatly assist the warm bath, sinapisms, &c., in producing the necessary relaxation, calling away irritation, or changing the “field of excitement” from the brain, previous to its cathartic action ; and what renders it still more valuable is the fact, that if retained in the rectum but a short time, it is capable, in addition, of provoking emesis—thereby, to freeing the stomach of offensive or irritating ingestæ, which are frequently the cause of convulsions ; and thus, the plant, even without the usual external adjuvant applications, as sinapisms, cold water to the head, pediluvia, &c., fulfills every valuable indication in the pro-

duction of resolution of this malady of infancy and childhood.

In asthma, generally, its powers, in the form of tincture, are well marked. A table-spoonfull alone, or in very severe cases, with 2 to 4 grs. of hydrocyanic acid, will almost as soon as the act of its deglutition is effected, relax the spasm of the minute bronchiæ, &c., and enable the sufferer to breathe freely.

With one or both of these articles I have enabled several asthmatics, passed the prime of life, and who had been afflicted for very many years, to pass the remainder of their days with great comfort and entire satisfaction.

One old gentleman, a farmer, who lived at the foot of a very high ridge, and whose arable land was situated upon its summit, several hundred feet above his habitation, had not been able to ascend the rugged steep for several years, until he was put upon the use of these medicines; after which, by taking a dose previous to resuming his cane, he was enabled to do so daily, for years, till a sudden death visited him one night in his bed.

Another patient, a lady of 40, and a sufferer of many years, by the use of the tincture alone, was enabled to live comfortably, without resorting any more to smoking stramonium leaves, burning "match paper," and a thousand and one other remedies.

In catarrhal, bronchial, and in fact, in all diseases of the respiratory organs and their investing membranes, where inflammatory symptoms are manifested by pain, dyspnœa, &c., the tincture (U. S. P.) or an infusion of this plant, exerts a happy effect, by its sedation of cardiac action, its anti-spasmodic and relaxant powers—anti-inflammatory and diaphoretic in its nature, it relieves the existing pain, dyspnœa, &c., by equalizing the circulating fluid, removing the tension of the diseased parts, and in the end inducing free diaphoresis—a state of system which is antagonistic of fever, pain, and difficulty of breathing.

Equal parts of syr. ipecac and tr. lobel. combined, form a medicine that I deem invaluable as an expectorant or simple emetic in cases of children, when attacked with a mild catarrh, spasmodic croup, and kindred affections, far superior and more safe (in the hands of mothers who are wont to administer such agents frequently) than Cox's Hive syrup, so much employed in domestic practice.

I hold that tr. lobelia alone, or combined with ipecac, as above, is superior to the comp. syr. of squills in all the above cases, being more philosophical and in accordance with sounder physiological and pathological principles, acting as

a sedative, a sedative expectorant and diaphoretic, and hence well calculated to relieve inflammatory action, or high irritation. Whilst the hive syrup is a combination of an irritating nauseant expectorant (scilla,) a stimulent expectorant (senega,) and a powerful depressing sedative and nauseant, (antimony,) the latter often producing derangement of the digestive functions, diarrhea, &c., thus laying the foundation of chronic dyspepsia in maturer years for those whose mothers are continually dosing with this syrup. Too often have I seen poor little children with appetite destroyed, digestion ruined, and diarrhea rendered obstinate by a resort to this medicine on every trifling occasion.

As an emetic agent, I have never been in the habit of using lobelia alone, except where a powerful impression is needed, such as general relaxation and diaphoresis—considering its distressing nauseant and prostrating powers uncalled for in the generality of cases.

In spasmodic croup—that from which occurs suddenly, with little or no premonition, and generally at night, tincture of lobelia, in doses appropriate to the age, and repeated once or twice in 20 minutes, acts like a charm in *giving* the child *breath*, to the delight of its anxious parents.

Not wishing to become too tedious in my remarks upon a single indigenous article of the *materia medica*, I will now conclude, hoping that this unpretending herb may receive more favor from the hands of the profession, hereafter, from the therapeutical applications which I have endeavored to point out in a hasty and cursory manner.

ARTICLE XXXV.—*Penetrating Wounds of the Larynx.*

In a paper on penetrating wounds of the larynx, by Prof. A. MARCH, M. D., (noticed in the October No. of the "Journal,") the author states that "the mistake which the ignorant or careless practitioner is liable to fall into, is in closing the wound tightly, in the larynx and in the skin with sutures." As I have no experience in extensive wounds of the air passages, I can say nothing, either pro or con, in regard to the practice of Dr. M.; and I do not hesitate to believe that he is correct. But that in small punctured wounds of the larynx or trachea we are equally safe in closing the aperture in the integument, or, rather, in allowing it to close, is proved by the following case, which I saw a few years ago.

A lad about twelve years of age, while working on a hay-mow, was wounded in the throat with a pitch-fork, violently

thrown at him by an elder brother. One prong of the fork entered the right side of the throat, in front of the sterno-mastoidens, at the place where the carotid emerges from behind that muscle. The wound bled freely, in jets, but when I arrived the hemorrhage had been arrested by pressure with the finger, and, consequently, I could not ascertain whether it had been arterial or venous. I found my patient somewhat anxious, (alarmed,) and laboring under a slight oppression of the respiration. The wound had entirely closed, and the lips of it were held together by hardened blood. The areolar tissue around the wound was emphysematous. I concluded to do nothing for the present, but watch the case closely, in order to treat in embryo any untoward symptoms that might arise. In the course of a day or two the emphysema had spread to the extent of a man's hand, and occasionally a little mucus was coughed up. The wound healed by first intention, and very kindly; and nothing occurred that required medical or surgical interference.

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ARTICLE XXXVI.—*Translations from the Revue de Therapeutique Medico-Chirurgicale.* By the Editor.

The Empyrial prescriptions of Rademacher—who appears to be an extensive practitioner in Germany, occupy the attention of the foreign journals pretty extensively; and are much quoted both by the American and English journals.

1. UNIVERSAL REMEDIES.—*Nitrate of Soda*—(Natrium Nitricum, Natrium Cubicum.)—From 4 to 30 grammes of this salt may be given in the twenty-four hours. This salt is prescribed when the seat of the disease is in the intestinal canal; it must be administered not only in moderate doses, but must be mixed with mucilage or oil, and taken at intervals of an hour. It is beneficial in diarrhœa. It is often very useful in *Hysteria*, especially when there is much acid in the stomach and intestines. It proves useful by removing other morbid conditions than the particular one to which hysteria owes its existence. In odontalgia where a morbid condition of the system induces caries of the roots of the teeth, the nitrate in large doses, (15 grammes a day,) together with the application of the zinc paste to the jaw. In *Erysipelas of the Head* it produces great and surprising results, especially when the disease is not idiopathic to the head, or is not of

gastric origin or dependent on a general affection of the system. *Angina* yields easily to the use of nitrate of soda. Begun with early, the amount of 8 grammes should be given in twenty-four hours. But should we not see the patient until the third day, it should be given to the extent of 15 to 30 grammes. In bad cases it should be given during the night, and the patient allowed to sleep as little as possible; zinc ointment also should be spread on a cloth and placed on the neck. The ointment of digitalis is, however, better. *Glossitis* may be cured in three or four days by the nitrate of soda. The painful condition of the larynx which occurs often in diseases of the lungs, is easily removed by this salt. So of croup, associated with disease of the lungs. The nitrate of soda is very effective in *Ophthalmia*. Certain coughs, periodic asthma, hæmoptisis, phthisis of the lungs, pains in the bowels, vomiting, are treated beneficially with this nitrate. The latter condition, associated with dysentery, is cured by the following: Subnitrate of Bismuth 0.75; Gum. Accaia 15.00; Nitrate of Soda 1.00; Water 250.00. Table spoonfull every hour. J. B.

Special Rules to be Observed in the Treatment of Patients Affected with Dysentery.—1. The morbid condition of an organ, which exists here as the predominant symptom, may remain after the general symptoms have ceased, but in a less degree. This law makes it necessary to seek a special remedy for the intestines. Here, the acetate of zinc acts very well. We do not generally seek special remedies for the intestines, the above case being an exception to the rule. A sympathetic affection, in some cases, becomes a primitive one in these organs, and continues after the cure of the primary disease. Two organs, in dysentery may be sympathetically affected, the liver and the kidneys. *All* affections with sympathetic diarrhea should be treated by blood medicines, in small doses. Should abdominal pain or tenesmus follow the use of the nitre potion, the warm medicines (*medicament tiede*) should be given.

When the renal affection becomes primitive, which will be known by the sessasion of the diarrhea, micturation deposits in the urine, one or all, it should be combatted by one or other of the following means:—1. The tincture of opium, in doses of 3 to 4 drops in 1,000 grammes of warm water, and taken during the 24 hours. 2. The powder of cocheneal in dose of about 8 grammes in 24 hours. 3. Golden rod, (*solidago, virga aurea*), 15 grammes, infused in 5 or 6 glasses of boiling water for half an hour. As soon as by means of either of these remedies, the urine becomes

clear, of a pale yellow, and in large quantity, the diarrhea ceases almost always.

On the Use of Nitrate of Soda in Dysentery.—There is no occasion to mix the nitrate with mucilage or oil in order to preserve the intestines from its local effects. The best way is to give it in solution, 30 grammes to 250 grammes of water, taken in spoonfull doses every hour. But if the patient has had nothing done, or been badly treated, chronic diarrhea sets in, which is to be treated with a mixture of cashoe nut and of sal ammoniac, which will act better than any other remedy.

The condition of the rectum induces tenesmus from time to time. The best remedy is belladonna ointment externally applied five or six times a day—proportions of 2 to 4.00 of belladonna to 8.00 of lard.

A Plea for the Establishment of Veterinary Colleges in the United States. Continued from page 158, and concluded.

It is said that the downfall of this great general at Waterloo, was due in a great measure to the superiority of the English cavalry—as it is well known that at that time, and perhaps still, the cavalry of Great Britain, is second to none in the world. Frederick the Great of Prussia, owed much of his success in the seven years war, which he carried on against the Germanic powers around him, to the great pains he took to train an efficient body of cavalry.

In a short visit to Berlin in 1838, at a grand review held there, at which, among other of the crowned heads and princes of Europe, who were present, was the Emperor Nicholas of Russia, I was much struck with the superiority of the cavalry which was exhibited.

The extent of our territory and coast to be defended, demands that horses should be of great strength and endurance. In the Mexican war, I am told by some of the officers who were there, that our horses and men contrasted very favorably for us, with the cavalry of that country.

I was informed during the last summer, in conversation with Colonel George Washington Custis, the present owner and occupant of Mount Vernon, that the celebrated race and turf horse of Virginia has very much degenerated, and yields at present to several breeds of Northern horses, particularly the “Morgan.”

If we call to mind the fact proved by the census returns of 1850, that the value of Live Stock in the United States, amounts to the enormous sum of \$552,705,238—and that of this there is in Pennsylvania \$42,146,711 invested, we may have some faint idea of the magnitude of the interests involved.

“Assuming, says General Chandler, (the superintendent of the American Institute of the city of New York,) the population of the United States as seventy-two millions, and that each person consumes half a pound of butter per week, the annual consumption will be five hundred and seventy-two millions of pounds, which at fourteen cents a pound, are worth upwards of eighty millions of dollars. The average produce per cow of butter, has been estimated at one hundred and sixty-eight pounds per annum; therefore, 3,405,000 cows would be required to produce that amount of butter.” And I may add, if we allow the low average of twenty dollars as the value of each of these cows, we have the large amount of \$128,100,000 invested in cows alone.

Now, it is well known that the mortality among the farmer's cows, is generally greater from ordinary diseases and accidents, than the mortality among any other portion of his stock.

My hearers will no doubt call to mind many seasons, when different portions of the country have been visited with severe epizootic diseases. A member of the American Veterinary Association informs me that epizootic influenza raged in this and the neighboring counties with great severity in 1850. He saw not less than one hundred and nineteen horses sick in one stable. Another member of this association tells me that he attended some eighty cases that year of this disease, in the horse alone; while multitudes of other animals died of it without medical assistance.

In 1832, the year that the cholera prevailed in Philadelphia, this influenza spread over Chester, Delaware and other counties in the vicinity, producing great mortality among live stock.

Still another source of great loss to the owners of horses and cattle, is to be found in infectious diseases, some of which, as has been stated before, are communicated to and fatal to man himself. An instance has been mentioned to me by an experienced veterinarian, where an extensive horse dealer and stage owner in the interior of Pennsylvania, bought a beautiful and apparently sound horse, which was found in a few weeks to have tainted no less than twenty horses at different parts of the stage rout over which he, with others, travelled. All these horses were led out and

shot, and were, of course, a loss of some two or three thousand dollars to the owner, for a want of a knowledge of the condition of the horse. The disease was glanders in the chronic form, which it is well known may exist for years in some horses without incapacitating them for work.

Virgil, who it will be recollected, wrote at the instigation of Augustus Cæsar, his poems called the *Georgics*, in order to stimulate the Italians to improve their lands, describes the effects of epidemic diseases on animals in the following words:

“The thriven calves in meads their food forsake,
And render their sweet souls before the plenteous rack.
The fawning dog runs mad; the wheesing swine
With coughs is choked, and labors from the chine.
The victor horse, forgetful of his food,
The palm renounces, and abhors the flood;
He paws the ground, and on his hanging ears
A doubtful sweat in clammy drops appears;
Parched is his hide, and rugged are his hairs.”

Allow me to urge one more reason, and the last which I will present, in favor of the establishment of Veterinary Colleges; it is that of their influence on the general education of the people. In my opinion no young man, whether he designs to be a farmer or not, would regret in after life, having attended a course of lectures in a Veterinary College. If I mistake not the spirit of the age, the tendency of education in all its phases, is to the study of Material Science. I can well remember the time when anatomy and physiology, particularly human anatomy, was considered by no means necessary, and by some, by no means proper, for the children of the people at large. It was confined to the halls of the medical colleges, and it was considered indelicate to allow it to come out and exhibit itself publicly. This period has gone by, and most of the young men educated at the present day have more or less knowledge of the structure and functions of the human body.

Natural and material science generally, are being cultivated and understood by our people to an extent quite unprecedented in former times. Let me urge, then, the establishment of additional means of educating the coming generation, in what concerns their comforts—their interests—and perhaps their lives.

The association which I have the honor to represent on the present occasion is a voluntary one, and one in its organization and objects purely American—it is denominated “THE AMERICAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION,” and composed

of Veterinary Practitioners, chiefly of the City and County of Philadelphia. It recognizes five classes of members—Patrons, which are physicians who take an interest in Veterinary Science—Contributing Members, or those who pay five dollars into the funds of the Society for the benefit of the cause—Senior Members, or respectable practitioners of Veterinary Medicine—Junior Members, or young men who are studying Veterinary Surgery—and Honorary Members, or those who have made themselves distinguished as writers, teachers, or discoverers in any branch connected with the Veterinary Art.

The objects of the Society are, the elevation of its members in social and scientific position, together with that of Veterinary Science in general—involving, also, the defence of the rights, privileges and immunities of its members, and of the profession at large. For these several purposes, a Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted, together with a Certificate or Diploma of Membership, and a Seal, which gives it the usual form of a chartered association. It is the intention of the members to apply to the Court or to the Legislature for a Charter, to constitute them a body politic in law, as they are already in fact. Their museum or collection of pathological and anatomical specimens, brought together within the compass of a few days, they design as the nucleus to one much more extensive and complete.*

It will be seen by the above statement that this society does not contemplate teaching to pupils the ordinary branches of a veterinary education; but has reference only to the advancement of science. &c., among those who practice the art. The organization of a College, of which I shall now say a few words, is a very different affair.

“France and all Europe (I quote from a manuscript Lecture of the President of the Society which I represent.) were, during the first half of the last century, ravaged by several most destructive epizootic diseases, among domestic cattle principally, extending to the horse, to the sheep, and every other domestic animal. The murrain, or pest, or malignant epidemic, was not previously unknown; its visitations, however, had been rare and of short duration; but in the year 1710 it seemed to break out contemporaneously in every part of Europe. It raged with undiminished fury for four years, and destroyed nearly half the cattle. The skill of the rude cow leeches of the day, and even of the most eminent practitioners, was completely baffled. With

* The Association obtained the prize of a splendid silver medal, for this collection at the above fair.

occasional remissions, irregular and often short, it was the terror of the agriculturist for forty years. About the year 1750, it appeared to assume a tenfold power to devastate; and for ten years, all the medical skill, and all the legislative preventive or curative enactments, were insufficient to arrest its course. At length, it became evident to medical men who had fruitlessly labored to remedy the evil, and to the agriculturist who had suffered so much from it, that they were contending with a foe at much disadvantage; for they knew not the nature of the weapons which he used, or the sources whence he derived his power. There were no persons who had devoted themselves to the study of the anatomy and diseases of domestic animals, and who might thus be enabled to recognize the true nature, seat and treatment of the complaint. Common sense and interest began at last to enforce the propriety of the establishment of Veterinary Schools: and on the fifth of August 1761, a degree of the Council of State, empowered Bourgelat, a Veterinary practitioner and author of great authority in his day, to found at Lyons a school for the study of the anatomy and diseases of domestic animals."

"Bourgelat, than whom a more zealous and capable man could not be found, was appointed Director of the school, and on the first of January 1762, the Veterinary College of Lyons was established; and professors in the various departments were attached to the Institution. In the third year of its existence, this school was taken more immediately under the protection of the sovereign: and was called the Royal Veterinary School. In the following year, it was determined to establish another and larger school in the more northern part of the kingdom, in the immediate vicinity of Paris. Late in the year 1765-1766, the Veterinary College at Alfort was opened, under the direction of Bourgelat, and students appointed by special brevet of the king.

Since that, another school has been established at Toulouse, making three altogether in France. There are now in Europe and the East some twenty-one Veterinary Colleges, viz: In Utrecht, Vienna, Berlin, Dresden, Copenhagen, Leipsic, Prague, Munich, Fribourg, Turin, Hanover, Naples, Parma, Padua, Marbough, Mayence, Bombay, Madrid, Abou-Zable, London and Edinburgh.

It was not until some thirty years had elapsed after the organization of the first Veterinary School in France that a movement was made to organize one in England. "Charles Vial de St. Bel," (says Mr. Blaine in his "Outlines of the Veterinary Art,") first published proposals for founding a Veterinary School in the year 1788; but the plan meeting

with no support, he returned to France. This gentleman was professionally educated at the Royal Veterinary College of Lyons, and afterwards became junior assistant at Alfort." In 1790 he made a second visit to England, and succeeded in interesting the Agricultural Society of Odiham, in Hampshire; and in February, 1791, the first organized meeting of the supporters of the society took place, at which the Veterinary College of London was formed and St. Bel was made the first professor.

"In March, 1792, it was resolved, that a temporary stabling for fifty horses, and a forge for shoeing, should be built near the house taken for the college; but the completion of which the Professor was hardly permitted to witness, for he was attacked with an illness in August, 1793, which proved fatal in about a fortnight."—*Blaine, p. 8.*

St. Bel was succeeded by Mr. Coleman as chief professor in the college, and he dying a short time since has been succeeded by Mr. Lewell and Mr. Spooner; the latter gentleman is still living and presides over the interests of the college. Mr. Coleman was a regularly educated medical man, and took up the subject of veterinary science without having previously either studied or practised it as an art. Under his auspices the school, it is said, flourished and prospered, and Parliament lent it the necessary amount of pecuniary aid annually.

In our own country, besides the organization of the Veterinary Association already described, the friends of the cause applied in 1852 to the Legislature of this State for a Charter of a Veterinary College. This was freely granted by that body; and a Board of Trustees are attached to that Charter, whose names are among the most wealthy and influential in the State.

When I mention the names of General George Cadwalader, Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, Bishop Alonzo Potter, General George M. Keim, Hon. Thomas Florence, Judge Watts, the President of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society—together with that of Judge Woodward of the Supreme Court of the State, with others like them—I present names which are a guarantee for the future success of this infant medical institution.

This Charter contemplates the establishment in Philadelphia of an extensive range of buildings for the purposes of stabling for sick horses and other animals—forges for the instruction of pupils in the art of shoeing—lecture rooms for the delivery of regular and systematic lectures on all the branches of a regular Veterinary Education—a large and comprehensive Museum, illustrative of the Anatomy,

Physiology, and Diseases of all Domesticated Animals—and, indeed, all the departments of a regular Veterinary College.

To accomplish this, a considerable sum of money will doubtless be required, but a sum by no means large, when compared with the magnitude of the interests to be protected by the undertaking.

A faculty of well educated professors is to be connected with the institution, whose salaries will accrue from the price of tickets paid by the pupils or patrons of the school. We doubt not the necessary amount of funds could be raised by means of stock, at one hundred dollars, or less, a share, permitting the stockholder to send a certain number of pupils or patients to the college free of charge, or at receiving for his money the usual legal interest; but we think that the nature and importance of the interests involved, will justify an appropriation on the part of the State of such an amount of money as will at once place the institution upon its feet, allowing it to sustain itself afterwards by its own exertions.

Such are some of the arguments in favor of the establishment of Veterinary Colleges in the United States. It is hoped that medical men will take up the matter, and like Dr. Coleman, of London, show by their example, what ought to be done for Veterinary Science.

It is also hoped that the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, will at once make an appropriation to aid in carrying out the purposes of the above named charter.

ARTICLE XXXVII.—*Connection between Erysipelas and Rheumatism.*

We have been delighted with the following remarks, confirmative of opinions which we have for years held and taught, drawn from clinical experience.—ED.

“*Natural Relation of the Disease.*—In the preliminary considerations on the nature of erysipelas I have already intimated my opinion, that its phenomena have a marked analogy with those of the febrile exanthemata, and indicate a relation to gouty, rheumatic, and scorbutic inflammations, in all of which the coetaneous inflammatory action of the internal mucous surfaces is a well-marked characteristic. All of them show an unmistakable tendency to a complication with gastric and biliary disorders, and are generally results of the same cold atmospheric humidity, from which an epidemic prevalence of all of them may proceed, as has been well

marked during the present season. This relation of rheumatism and erysipelas will be yet more evident from the following comparison of the morbid state of the urine in both diseases, in which there is a very evident increase in the quantities of uric acid and extractive beyond a state of health. The results are indicated in the following tables, compiled from Simon's Chemistry :—

RHEUMATISM.

A man aged thirty, whose urine threw down a copious red sediment on standing for two hours, and was 1017.2 of specific gravity.

—					Analysis 1.	Analysis 2.	Analysis 3.
Water	-	-	-	-	971.80	970.20	981.10
Solid constituents	-	-	-	-	28.20	29.8	18.90
Urea	-	-	-	-	12.20	9.00	8.00
Uric acid	-	-	-	-	1.70	1.04	0.56
Fixed salts	-	-	-	-	—	5.59	2.34
Extractive matter	-	-	-	-	—	14.70	8.00

ERYSIPELAS.

In the febrile stage of this disease the urine has all the characters of inflammatory febrile urine. Becquerel made two qualitative analyses of the urine of a man, aged thirty-nine, who had erysipelas. Specific gravity, 1021 to 1023.1. The quantity passed during the twenty-four hours being, in the first and second analysis, 27.0 and 30.8 ounces respectively.

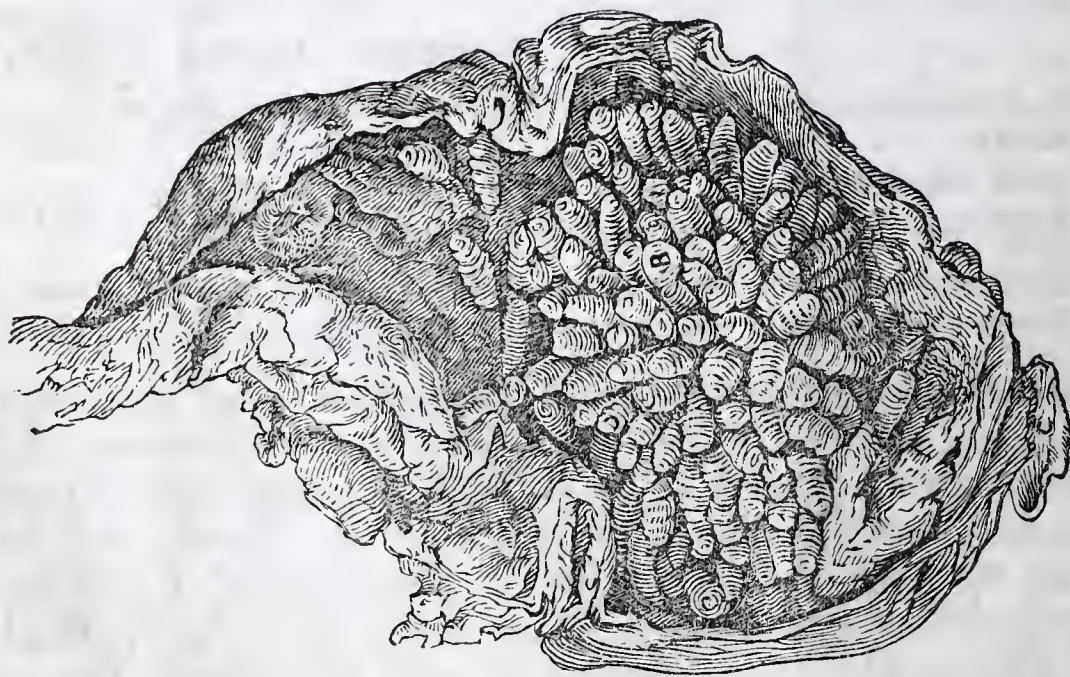
—					Analysis 1.	Analysis 2.	Analysis 3 of healthy urine.
Water	-	-	-	-	965.5	961.9	970.0
Solid constituents	-	-	-	-	34.5	38.1	28.
Urea	-	-	-	-	12.5	12.7	12.1
Uric acid	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.3	0.4
Fixed Salts	-	-	-	-	—	8.2	6.9
Extractive matter	-	-	-	-	—	15.9	8.6

Other chemical pathologists have ascertained that, during the acute stage of erysipelas, while the urine presents all the characters of febrile urine, it is at the same time albuminous, and occasionally mixed with blood. These facts have been well established by the examinations of the urine, in erysipelatos cases, made by Becquerel and by Dr. Begbie, of Edinburgh. The presence also of albumen in the urine during the desquamative stage of erysipelas is noticed by Lehmann; and others have found that at this period of the disease, the urine is coagulable and charged with epithelium, as in scarlatina. The temporary albuminuria and the des-

-quamation from the renal tubes, which have been thus found associated with erysipelas, and more particularly when the inflammation of the skin has been of great extent and idiopathic in its origin, are points of great practical importance in regard to this disease. They serve to show that this cutaneous affection, like other exanthematous diseases, is associated with derangement of the renal functions, and that both are coetanously connected with the same blood lesion, the removal of which is an essential element of successful treatment. The efficacy of the tincture of sesquichloride of iron, which sensibly affects the secretion of the urine, while it restores the healthy nutritive powers of the red blood globules, probably depends on its power of producing these effects. The subject is one well worthy of further observation and experiment."—*London Lancet*.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.—*Bots in the Horse.*

We extract the following account of the Bot, from "Youatt on the Horse." We do not agree with this author in the idea of bots being "innocent." The following cut shows a collection of them well calculated to irritate and injure the intestines. The specimen from which the cut was taken is in the Museum of the American Veterinary Association.—ED.



"In the spring and early part of the summer, horses are much troubled by a grub or caterpillar, which crawls out of the anus, fastens itself under the tail, and seems to cause a

great deal of itching or uneasiness. Grooms are sometimes alarmed at the appearance of these insects. Their history is curious, and will dispel every fear with regard to them. We are indebted to Mr. Bracy Clark for almost all we know of the bot.

A species of gad-fly, the *œstrus equi*, is in the latter part of the summer exceedingly busy about the horse. It is observed to be darting with great rapidity towards the knees and sides of the animal. The females are depositing their eggs on the hair, and which adhere to it by means of a glutinous fluid with which they are surrounded. In a few days the eggs are ready to be hatched, and the slightest application of warmth and moisture will liberate the little animals which they contain. The horse in licking himself touches the egg; it bursts, and a small worm escapes, which adheres to the tongue, and is conveyed with the food into the stomach. There it clings to the cuticular portion of the stomach, by means of a hook on either side of its mouth; and its hold is so firm and so obstinate, that it must be broken before it can be detached. It remains there feeding on the mucus of the stomach during the whole of the winter, and until the end of the ensuing spring; when, having attained a considerable size, and being destined to undergo a certain transformation, it disengages itself from the cuticular coat, is carried into the villous portion of the stomach with the food, passes out of it with the chyme, and is evacuated with the dung.

The *larva* or maggot seeks shelter in the ground, and buries itself there; it contracts in size, and becomes a chrysalis or grub, in which state it lies inactive for a few weeks, and then, bursting from its confinement, assumes the form of a fly. The female, becoming impregnated, quickly deposits her eggs on those parts of the horse which he is most accustomed to lick, and thus the species is perpetuated.

There are several plain conclusions to be drawn from this history. The bots cannot, while they inhabit the stomach of the horse, give the animal any pain, for they have fastened on the cuticular and insensible coat. They cannot stimulate the stomach, and increase its digestive power, for they are not on the digestive portion of the stomach. They cannot, by their roughness, assist the trituration or rubbing down of the food, for no such office is performed in that part of the stomach—the food is softened, not rubbed down. They cannot be injurious to the horse, for he enjoys the most perfect health when the cuticular part of his stomach is filled with them, and their presence is not even suspected until they appear at the anus. They cannot be removed by medicine, because they are not in that part of the stomach to

which medicine is usually conveyed; and if they were, their mouths are too deeply buried in the mucus for any medicine, that can be safely administered, to affect them; and, last of all, in due course of time they detach themselves and come away. Therefore, the wise man will leave them to themselves, or content himself with picking them off when they collect under the tail and annoy the animal."

The Country Doctor.—"For our own part," says the editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, "we heartily respect and admire the first class country practitioner. There is not so fine a specimen of the genus *homo*, variety *medical man*. All his faculties physical and mental are well developed, his experience is abundant and diversified, day and night he must be prepared to meet any emergency in any conceivable department. He cannot say, "I do not treat that class of cases; go to Dr. —, the specialist," but he must treat all cases and perform all operations, and right well he does them. For our own part, if we had to undertake a long journey to New Zealand or the Crimea,

"Sive per Syrtes iter æstuosas,
Sive facturus Caucasum per inhospitalem;"

and had power to choose our professional attendant or companion, we should select a thoroughly good practitioner from the country, even though in some details, he might be inferior to some Metropolitan physician or surgeon."—*Virg. Med. and Sur. Journal*.

Shakespeare and Syphilis.—The following allusion to the constitutional symptoms of venereal diseases occurs in *Timon of Athens*, Act. iv. Scene 3.

Timon addressing the whores, bids them

"Consumption sow
In hollow bones of man; strike their sharp shins,
And mar men's spurring. Crack the lawyer's voice
That he may never more false title plead,
Nor sound his quilllets shrilly; hoar the flamen
That scolds against the quality of flesh
And not believes himself; down with the nose;
Down with it flat; take the bridge quite away,
.; make curl'd pate ruffians bald."

We have here mentioned, 1st, the syphilitic cachexia; 2nd, nodes on the tibia; 3rd, sore throat and laryngitis; 4th, scaly eruptions; 5th, loss of nasal bones, and consequent falling in; 6th, loss of hair. The enumeration is a most remarkable evidence of Shakespeare's universal knowledge, and I doubt extremely whether so full a one could be found in the works of any medical writer of the same age.—*Ibid.*

ARTICLE XXXIX.—*Registration.—Statutes of Connecticut—Compilation of 1854.*

AN ACT relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths. [Passed 1852.]

Sec. 1. That every town shall at its every annual meeting appoint a Registrar.

Sec. 2. Every registrar shall make oath or affirmation that he will faithfully perform the duties of his office. He shall ascertain as accurately as he can, by actual inquiry, or in such other manner as is hereinafter provided, all the births, marriages and deaths occurring in his town, and shall make record of the same in a book or books, kept by him for that purpose, in such form and with such particulars, relating to such births, marriages and deaths, as the ensuing sections of this act require.

Sec. 3. His record of births shall state in separate columns the date of each birth, the child's name, if it have any, its sex, the names, ages, color and residence of its parents, and the occupation of its father.

Sec. 4. His record of marriages shall state in separate columns the date of each marriage solemnized in his town; the name, age, color, occupation and birth-place of each of the parties; the residence of each prior to, and at the time of the marriage; the condition of each (whether single or widowed) immediately prior to the marriage; and the name and residence of the minister or magistrate by whom the parties are joined in marriage.

Sec. 5. His record of deaths shall state in separate columns the date of each death, the disease or other cause producing such death; the name, age, color, sex, birth-place, last occupation, residence and condition (whether single, married or widowed) of the deceased.

Sect. 6. Every registrar shall amend his records, from time to time, as he may discover omissions or mistakes therein; and annually, on or before the twenty-fifth day of January, after having made his records as perfect as by diligent inquiry he can do, he shall send the Secretary of State an abstract of said records for the year next preceding the first day of said January; which abstract shall be made in such form as shall be prescribed by said secretary, and shall be duly attested by said registrar.

Sec. 7. Every physician or midwife who shall have professional charge of the mother at the birth of any child, and every nurse or other attendant, who may act as midwife at such a time in a case where no physician or midwife is employed, shall, within one month after such birth, furnish to

the registrar of the town wherein such birth may have taken place, a certificate signed by such physician, midwife, nurse or other attendant, stating from the best information which the signer of said certificate may obtain, the date of such birth, the child's name, if it have any, its sex, the names, ages, color and residence of its parents, and the occupation of its father.

Sec. 8. Every minister and magistrate shall keep a record of all marriages solemnized before him, and of all the facts relating to every such marriage, required by the fourth section of this act; and every such minister and magistrate shall, within the first week of each calender month, return a copy of his said record, for the month next preceding, to the registrar of the town in which the marriages recorded in any such record, may have been solemnized.

Sec. 9. Every sexton or person having charge of any public or private burial place, shall, during the first week of each calender month, deliver to the registrar of the town in which such burial-place is situated, a list of the names and dates of burial of the persons buried in such burial-place during the month next preceding.

Sec. 10. The physician who shall attend any deceased person, shall leave a certificate containing all the particulars relating to said deceased, required by the fifth section of this act, within ten days after the interment of the deceased; and in case no physician shall attend said deceased, then it shall be the duty of the nearest of kin to procure a certificate from some other physician, or substantial inhabitant, containing such information; and it shall be the duty of said nearest of kin to leave the certificate with the town registrar within fifteen days thereafter. Any such attending physician, who shall neglect or refuse to give the certificate required by this section, shall, for such offence, pay a fine of ten dollars, to the use of the town wherein such offence was committed.

Sec. 11. No person shall take the body of any deceased person out of the town wherein such deceased person died, without having first left with the registrar of that town a certificate, similar in all particulars to the one prescribed in section 10 of this act. And it shall be the duty of the registrar to give a permit for the removal of such body, when the above conditions are complied with.

Sec. 12. Every certificate given pursuant to sections 10 and 11 of this act, shall be in the following form:

I certify, from the best information which I can obtain,
that _____ died at _____, on the
day of _____ A. D. 18 _____, aged _____ years,

months, and days ; sex, a ; condition, ;
 born in ; residence, at the time of death, ;
 disease or cause of death, ; occupation, a ;
 color, . Dated at , this day of
 A. D. 18 .

Attending Physician, (physician or inhabitant of said town, as the case may be.)

Sect. 13. The registrar of each town shall distribute in such town, to all persons who in his judgment are likely to need the same, blank forms for the certificates and returns required by this act. And it shall be his duty to deposit with the town clerk a true copy of the record forwarded annually to the Secretary of State.

Sect. 14. The registrar of each town shall receive from its treasury, for ascertaining and recording in manner aforesaid, each birth ten cents; each marriage ten cents; and each death ten cents; and for making and sending to the Secretary of State the annual abstract aforesaid, two dollars.

Sect. 15. If the registrar of any town die, or resign during his term of office, the selectmen of that town shall, without unnecessary delay, appoint another person registrar in his place.

Sect. 16. The Secretary of State shall annually prepare and furnish to the registrar of the several towns, a sufficient number of blank forms for all the certificates and returns required by this act; shall accompany the same with such instructions and explanations as he may think necessary; shall receive said returns, and prepare or cause to be prepared therefrom, such tabular statements as will render them of practical utility, and exhibit their results in convenient form; and shall make report thereof, annually, to the General Assembly; and generally he shall do whatever may be necessary to carry into effect this act.

Sect. 17. Every person who shall violate any provision of this act, shall pay for every such offence, a fine of ten dollars, to the use of the town wherein such offence is committed.

AN ACT *in Relation to an Act entitled "An Act relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths."*
 [Passed 1854.]

If the annual abstract of any town, as provided for in the 14th section of the Act to which this Act is an addition, shall contain in the aggregate the record of more than two hundred names, the registrar of such town shall receive two cents, for each name over said number of two hundred, in addition to the compensation specified in said Act.

AN ACT *Relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.*

That every physician, midwife or other person, whose duty it is to certify to births and deaths according to the 3d and 4th sections of an Act Relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and every sexton or other person whose duty it is to furnish the list of burials to the registrar, required by the 9th section of said Act, approved July 1st, 1852, shall receive as compensation for each certificate so given, the sum of twenty-five cents from the treasurer of the town, in which such birth or death may occur.

Approved June 1st, 1855.

The Act of 1854 further provides, among the other duties of the registrar, that no person shall be joined in marriage, until the parties or one of them shall make application to the registrar of the town in which such marriage is to be solemnized, or in case of his absence or inability, to the town clerk of said town, and shall give such registrar or town clerk information respecting the name, age, birthplace and residence of each of the parties, and this only. Such registrar, or town clerk, provided there is no registrar, as the case may be, shall, on payment of twenty-five cents therefor, issue his certificate that the parties therein named, have complied with the provisions of this act, which certificate shall be a license for any judge, justice of the peace, ordained minister, or regularly licensed clergyman in said town, qualified under the laws of this State to join persons in marriage, to unite in marriage the persons therein named. Provided that no registrar or town clerk shall issue his certificate as above, if such persons applying, or either of them are under the control of parents or guardians, before he is certified of the consent of the parents or guardians.

And if any judge, justice of the peace, ordained minister, or regularly licensed clergyman, shall join any persons in marriage without having first received a certificate as herein provided for, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars.—*Copied from Manuscript Statutes.*

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*Decoration of an American Physician.*—A letter is published in the *Boston Transcript*, in which a Turkish official informs Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of that city, that the Sultan, desirous of honoring the discoverer of anæsthesia, has conferred on him (Dr. Jackson) the Order of the Mejidge of the fifth Class (Chevalier). We wish that the honor was better merited.—*Virg. Med. and Sur. Jour.*



ARTICLE XL.—*Foreign Correspondence.*

BERLIN, June 19, 1855.

It will not, I think, be uninteresting to many of your readers, to give a few particulars in regard to the expenses of living in the Prussian capital. I have been here long enough to judge pretty accurately in regard to this point. As far as I can see, the cost of living is by no means so extravagantly low as many imagine. Every favor that one asks must be paid for, and it is only the opportunity which one has to be isolated and to be independent in his mode of life, that enables him to live more cheaply here than in America. And the fact of being a foreigner, will always involve one in some extra expenses.

The students all live in furnished rooms near the clinics and hospitals. These are let to them for about four or five American dollars a month. The expenses of the table are altogether variable. They must depend upon the habits of each person. I find that two American dollars a week is rather a high average in this respect. Every thing like clothes is fabulously low. A nice dress overcoat is but fourteen dollars, a hat a couple of dollars, and a pair of kid gloves perhaps half a dollar. All incidental articles are about two-thirds of the American value, though such expenses are more numerous here than with us. Books have the same value in both countries. Altogether, as far as I can judge, the physician who comes here to spend a year or year and a half, in study, may save enough in the cheaper mode of life, to balance the cost of his passage out and back in a sailing vessel. In this case he must live as all students do, for hotel life in Europe is much more expensive.

The question of acquiring the German language is important to one desiring to spend a long time here in studying. To be sure many of the Professors are able to converse fluently in English, and one-half of the shopkeepers on the chief streets have a smattering of it; still one can by no means appreciate the facilities of the place, without a knowledge of the language, or the company of a German friend. To one who speaks French, many of the private courses of instruction are valuable.

One of the most pleasant occupations of the foreign physician here is to visit the various hospitals and collect what random information he may upon the spot. An acquaintance with the internes affords one an opportunity to do this as often as he pleases.

*Treatment of Fractures by Gypsum Bandages.*—I have just returned from a walk through some of the surgical wards



of the *Charite*. What strikes one at first here, is the entire absence of splints. In fractures of every kind, wooden apparatus is entirely discarded. In place of it, gypsum bandages are used. The cloth is prepared in the gypsum and dipped into water when used. Even in fractures of the femur, they are the only dressing. They are put on over a thin layer of flannel, so as not to adhere to the skin, and as the swelling of a part goes down, a new set of the gypsum strips are applied. The custom at this hospital is to leave a patient, say a week, without any bandage, and then in time to anticipate union, the plaster casing is fixed upon the limb.

Dr. Langenbeck goes upon the same principle, not favoring splints, but uses the starch bandages instead of gypsum, and puts them on at once. He says that this mode of dressing has always proven favorable in his hands. All swelling is kept down, and a speedy cure results. The tightness of the bandages is by no means painful, while the great point in the management of fractures, muscular compression, is admirably answered. The parts below the injury are of course always to be tightly wound, at the same time as the portion of the limb at the seat of the fracture. As the bandage loosens, it must at once be replaced.

I saw a case in the *Charite* to-day of a boy with a fracture of both fibula and tibia, of five weeks standing, where he was walking round upon the fractured limb very well by the aid of a cane.

This mode of practice is not regarded so favorably in England as upon the continent. It has superseded all others in the large German hospitals. In St. Petersburg it has also been adopted. I dwell at length upon it, because it seems to be a vast improvement, in the majority of cases in which wooden splints are now used. It is of no trouble as regards transportation, it can be made as thick or light as is desired, and is applicable at sea, in the camp, and in fact everywhere. Sir James Ballingall in his excellent work upon Military Surgery speaks in the highest terms of this class of dressings.

The history of the gypsum bandage is European. It was first brought before the profession by Vander Loo, a Dutch surgeon, and the first article of importance in regard to it was published in the *Vienna Weekly Journal of Medicine and Surgery*. It was made the subject of a report to the Imperial Austrian Academy. The dressing has been modified in one particular by Pirogoff, Professor of Surgery, at St. Petersburg. This is merely to employ old linen and cotton clothes for the substance of the bandages. The modification arose from Prof. P.'s visit to the Crimea, lately, to



inquire into the condition of the Russian army hospitals there, and is of course only a point of economy.

One of the greatest hobbies here is the "Chamomile Tea Bath." The victim of this treatment must sit up to his chin in hot Chamomile decoction, or allow a portion of his body to lie in it for hours after hours. The cases in which it is used are inflammation of the cellular tissue, new wounds where gangrene is feared, in poorly vitalized parts and in cases of frost-bite, either before or after an operation. This mode of treatment is clumsy to be sure, but really seems most excellent in its results.

In erysipelas of the face, cotton batting is lightly wrapped upon it. The object is probably as much as any thing, to promote a healthy perspiration, and thus restore the skin to its natural functions.

I have noticed here in fractures of the clavicle the dressings are far behind the day. Undoubtedly many cases of this accident get along just as well without as with a dressing. But where one pretends to apply a series of straps to answer the three directions of upwards, backwards, and outwards, and really fulfils neither of them, it is worse than useless. They don't seem to have any idea of Fox's apparatus, and I saw three cases to-day dressed without any kind of axillary pad.

In the several wards, Zitman's Decoction is quite in vogue. I don't know just how the ingredients are combined in the German preparation. The substances used are the same as stated in a note to the U. S. Dispensatory. The patient undergoes a sweat, and while warm in bed the mixture is drunk.

The house surgeons and assistants in the *Charite*, and indeed in nearly all the Prussian hospitals, are young medical men from the army. They are detailed round to different stations, so as to improve themselves by hospital practice for the benefit of the army afterwards. This is what gives character to the medical corps of the continental forces. Each man has undergone a most rigid experience in this way.

Dr. Langenbeck's clinic has been lately rich in cases of Anchylosis. In no other place in the world is such attention paid to this class of malformations. Wherever any thing can be done to restore the action of a joint it is pretty certain to be tried. Subcutaneous tonotomy and boring into joints are of daily occurrence. Patients are placed under the influence of chloroform, and if necessary the greatest force is applied to produce some movement. In a great majority of the cases thus treated, the limbs gradually recover their natural appearance, though it is doubtful whether the whole of this kind of practice is commendable. Good joints



may result oftentimes at the expense of life. The opinion of Dr. Mott, long ago expressed, is, after all, the safest. A person had better have an awkward leg or arm, than undergo the risk of such violent treatment.

In a case of malignant disease of the scapula; the whole was extirpated, with the outer portion of the clavicle and head of the humerus. The patient, a lad of fourteen years, suffered much from the loss of blood and will probably not recover. It was, however, his only chance of life. Dr. Langenbeck has already performed this operation three times with ill success in all. It must be very rare to find a person whose constitution is such, when this operation can be called for, as to insure his recovery afterwards.

Speaking of these capital operations, Dr. L. has exsected the head of the femur, with amputation, in all seven times. Five cases of the seven have died. He has made the hypogastric section. These statistics may be interesting to your surgical readers.

I have had the misfortune to have seen the practical treatment of acute rheumatism here under rather unhappy circumstances, and also to acquire an insight into the interior management of a German hospital. An American physician, Dr. Henry P. Bostwick, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, on his way to St. Petersburg, was seized with a very severe attack upon his voyage, and will hardly go on for some weeks to come. Twenty-four American physicians have now gone to the Crimea. I wish that a word expressed in your Journal would do any good in persuading our young medical men at home that the prospect there is really any thing but encouraging, without he is qualified for the greatest physical trials, and for continual embarrassment from an ignorance of the language.

But to acute rheumatism. The treatment here is almost identical with ours. Depletion by blood-letting, if deemed necessary, anodynes, blisters if necessary over the heart, and mercury if demanded by any internal complications. The usual specifics are also used, and the inflamed joints are treated hydropathically. Wet flannel is wound round lightly and covered with oil silk to prevent evaporation.

I had hoped to have given your readers a word in regard to the great Anatomical Museum at Berlin, but must defer that and other matters to my next letter.—*New Hampshire Jour. of Medicine.* N. E. GAGE.

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DR. HUARD, of San Francisco, has received, says the *Moniteur des Hopitaux*, the decoration of the Legion of Honor, as a reward for his devotion to the French residents in that city.



*Medical Treatment of Cataract by the Iodide of Potassium and Liquor Ammonia.* By M. GARIAMOPAZ.

1st Case. Man aged 50, suffering for three months with almost total loss of sight in the left eye; capsular cataract nearly complete. Blistering on the temporal region with the liquor ammonia. The opacity of the lens had entirely disappeared in two months, and up to this time has not returned.

2nd. Case. Man aged 30; failing of the sight for two years; total loss of it in the left eye; soft lenticular cataract. Thirty centigrammes of iodide of potassium daily with blistering and ammonia. Operation performed three months after; the cataract had become semi-fluid; no change in the cataract of the right eye.

3rd Case. Woman aged 40, of hysteric disposition. Incomplete hard cataracts of both eyes, of one year's duration. The patient could still discover objects brought close to the eye, and those of some size. Iodide of potassium and the liquor ammonia. Improvement in the sight after two months: she could sew after five months; under treatment for seven months. The opacity almost entirely disappeared and the lens lost its dull whitish appearance, and there remained in the centre of the pupils a small opaque spot corresponding to the nucleus of the lens.

4th Case. Woman aged 50. Hard capsulo-lenticular cataract of three year's duration; incipient cataract of the same nature in the left eye. The same treatment pursued during six months. The opacity in the left eye has almost totally disappeared. It remains however almost as weak as at the commencement. No change in the right eye.—*El Porvenir Medico*.—*American Lancet*.

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Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Journal.

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PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 1, 1855.

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REGISTRATION.—We have long been impressed with the idea that a law *could* be framed, which would be effectual in securing for science the Birth, Marriage and Death of every individual in this or any other State. The experiment lately made in Pennsylvania, which, unfortunately, is an entire failure, accompanied with an outlay of considerable money, clearly teaches that we have not fallen upon the true method yet. In the course of our investigations, we have



been seeking to obtain the laws of registration as they exist in other states and countries, and present, in the present number a certified copy of the laws of Connecticut on this subject. We have, also, a lecture by Dr. Hubbard, containing much valuable information; "Report of the State Librarian, relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1855. Hartford," &c. For these documents and others, obtained with considerable trouble, we are indebted to our friend Mr. Joseph L. Chester, of the "Daily Sun."

We design, if our other engagements will permit, to make suggestions, and perhaps draft a form of a law, or code of laws, which we think will effectually meet the difficulties of the case. We sincerely hope that the Legislature, in its coming session, will take the thing in hand in earnest. We believe the accomplishment of the object quite practicable, and without any expense of consequence to the State. Two or three principles may be stated on which this or any other law should be founded. 1st. Laws should be for the benefit of those who are to be affected or governed by them. 2d. Full provision should be made for the execution of the laws by those whom they affect. 3. Penalties, adequate to obtain the execution of the laws, should be attached to them. 4. Laws should, as nearly possible, act equally on all citizens.

"To Massachusetts belongs the honor of taking the lead among the States, in the march of sanitary reform, at the instigation of a distinguished statician of Boston, Lemuel Shattuck, Esq., to whose reports and correspondence I am indebted for many valuable facts. Responding to the call of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the legislature in 1842, enacted a registration law, which has been from time to time amended, as experience of its practical workings indicated, until it has been brought to a good degree of perfection and efficiency.

"New York soon passed a similar law, and was followed in 1852 by Rhode Island, New Jersey and Kentucky, in all of which States, annual reports have since been published.

"In the Connecticut colony, the first registration act was passed in 1644. On the third of June, it was 'Ordered, that the Towne Clarkes or Registers in the seuerall Townes within this Jurisdiction, shall ech of them keepe a record of the day of mariedge of euery p<sup>r</sup>son hereafter married w<sup>th</sup>in



theire libertyes, and of the day of the birth of enery child hereafter borne, to who the parent of the child shall w<sup>th</sup>in three dayes after the birth of his child certifie the day of the childs birth, and to who enery man that shall be married shall w<sup>th</sup>in three dayes after his mariage certifie his mariage day, vnder the penalty of 5s, enery default. The said Register is to receaue vid. for recording the day of mariage & iid. for recording the birth of the child.'

In the laws as subsequently codified—it was required that 'every new married man shall likewise bring in a certificate of his Marriage, under the hand of the *Magistrate w<sup>ch</sup> married him*, to the said Register.' 'If any person shall neglect to bring in a noate or certificate as aforesaid, together with three pence a name, to the said Register, for all Births and Deaths—and six pence for each marriage. to be recorded, more than one month after such Birth, Death or Marriage, shall forfeitt for enery default *five shillings*, and the penalty further increased vpon longer neglect, according to the judgement of the Court;' and the Register was required to send to the Secretary of the Court an annual transcript, together with a *third part of the fees*, under the penalty of forty shillings for every neglect. A similar record was commenced at New Haven in the following year, and both were continued until the opening of the Revolution."

S. G. HUBBARD, M.D.

MEDICAL ETHICS.—In reply to our request in the September number of the Journal in reference to the action of the *Censors* and some of the members of the County Medical Society, on the charge of unprofessional conduct, we have received numerous private letters and some notices in the Medical Journals. Among the latter we quote the following from the Nashville Journal of Medicine and Surgery for November. After quoting our editorial, it says:

"We mentioned, a year or two ago, in our Journal, that we had attended a young lady from Alabama, in one of our academies, for an attack of fever. When we sent our bill to her to be forwarded to her father for payment, she returned it to us, with the consolatory message that her father was an English physician who had emigrated to Alabama. We forwarded the bill to the Doctor. He wrote us that he was astonished at that, as he had learned that his daughter had informed us that he was a physician. We wrote him that his profession in Alabama had nothing to do with our attendance professionally upon his daughter in Tennessee.



He sent us the amount of his bill, after repeating his astonishment!

Now, Dr. Bryan's case is equally clear. Gratuitous professional service is based upon a recognition of the possibility, not to say probability, of a reciprocal interchange of professional function. Dr. A. attends his neighbor, Dr. B. gratuitously, *because* Dr. A. may, sometime or other, have occasion for like skill and service upon the part of Dr. B. This, we say, is the philosophy, the *reason* of the law.

Owing to this spirit of the law, *doctors* are in the habit of paying *surgeons* in *money* for surgical practice, because they cannot pay them in like service. Dentists very properly charge doctors, because doctors cannot pay for dentistry *in* dentistry. Doctors, for the same reason, charge dentists. As the 'old tooth-puller and bleeder' could not reciprocate the professional service of Dr. Bryan, it follows that he could only cancel the obligation by footing the bill. Dr. Bryan was perfectly right, except as to the amount charged. The gentleman of teeth and lancets ought to have insisted upon duplicating that 'twenty-dollar *bill*.'

For the same reason, when a physician is called to see a distant sick brother in medicine, to consult with his neighboring brethren, the consulting physician should be paid in money, while the attending physicians would only expect their pay in kind, should occasion ever offer. An old bachelor physician, visiting a medical brother's wife in confinement, should be paid in money for his services; for his friend cannot pay him in like service. The way is so plain, in every phase of the case, that any honest man can see it; and we believe not one in a thousand of physicians would fail to see it."

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EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY.—PARDON OF DR. BEALE.—Gov. Pollock has extended his clemency to Dr. Beale, and remitted the remainder of his sentence of imprisonment, which was four years and six months, beginning on the 28th of November, 1854. He has served, therefore, about one year of his term. The pardon states the reasons which induced the Governor to extend this favor.

He had received communications from about one hundred and forty dentists and twenty-three physicians, of this city and the country, stating their belief that testimony as to matters transpiring under the influence of ether is unsafe and unreliable; from a number of other physicians named, that they believe him innocent; from a large number of the bar, and citizens of various States, including the names of



Governors, Attorneys-General, &c., that they believe he was convicted on insufficient testimony; from a number of clergymen, that they believe him innocent; from the Mayor of Philadelphia, and fifty members of the Philadelphia City Councils; from members of the Legislature, Judges of the Supreme Court, editors of Philadelphia newspapers, and five thousand other citizens of Pennsylvania and New York, with five of the jury on the trial, all asking for his pardon. After enumerating all these facts, the Governor says:

“And whereas, the Board of Inspectors of the said Philadelphia County Prison, (as appears by their communication on file in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth,) have unanimously recommended the pardon of the said Dr. Stephen T. Beale, because, in their opinion, the end contemplated by the law in the moral reform of the prisoner has been attained—because full and ample satisfaction has been rendered to public sentiment by the imprisonment he has already undergone—because his health is undoubtedly breaking down under the sufferings of body and mind which he has already endured, and because the destitute condition of his aged parents and bereaved and sorrowing wife and children imperatively demand the presence and support of their son, husband and father.

“And whereas, after a full and careful examination of the facts and evidence in the case, aided by the scientific discussions to which it has given rise, (without any intention to reflect upon the prosecutrix, who no doubt testified to what she believed did occur—nor to impugn the integrity of the learned Judge who tried the case, nor the honesty of the jury who convicted the prisoner,) *I am now satisfied* that the defendant, Dr. Stephen T. Beale, is *not guilty* of the crime whereof he stands charged, and was convicted upon evidence unreliable in its character and insufficient in amount.

“I do, therefore, in consideration of the premises, pardon the said Dr. Stephen T. Beale of the crime whereof he is convicted as aforesaid, and he is hereby fully pardoned accordingly.”

We have no disposition to throw odium on the trial by jury, God forbid—but that such a low-lived, vulgar, *drunken* jury—singing the “Landlady of France,” &c., should be allowed to “scorch him,” or to act on a charge against any man but one of their own peculiar class, we cannot understand. How a respectable and exemplary bench should permit such a verdict under the circumstances, is a wonder not



only to us, but to thousands of others. One of the oldest and most respected medical practitioners of our city, said to us, that this case was the first in the annals of his memory, that made him doubt the stability of our institutions, and absolutely tremble for his own personal freedom. We say, unhesitatingly, that no man who drinks intoxicating liquors while in the jury-box, except for disease, is a fit person to decide questions involving the characters and lives of his fellow men.

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Notices of Books.

"Pronouncing Medical Lexicon," by C. H. CLEVELAND, M.D., Professor, &c., Cincinnati, Ohio. This we believe is the first attempt made in medicine to present the technical terms, in phonetic language. Each word is given in its ordinary orthography, and accompanied with the usual sound or pronunciation in phonetic characters. Our friend Dr. Comstock, of this city, has long been engaged in teaching phonetics, and a more rational system of orthography than the common one. The only objection we have in the matter is the apparant necessity of adopting foreign letters to express our own sounds. These aliens must long retard the general adoption of the phonetic system, promulgated in our country. We would much prefer, were it possible, the simple manner adopted by the Italian writers, by which they apply the ordinary Roman letters to the spelling of all words in their language, whether the words are derived from the Greek, Arabic, Sanscrit, or any other—*filosofia*, for instance, instead of philosophy.

Sargent's Minor Surgery.—The "new edition," revised and enlarged, with one hundred and eighty-one illustrations, of Dr. Sargent's excellent manual, has been received from the publishers, Messrs. Blanchard & Lea. We have long felt the necessity of such knowledge as is imparted by this work to the young medical man—and have, therefore, for more than fifteen years been delivering annually, courses of lectures, to private classes, on "Operative Surgery." The above work is a very good epitome of many of the approved operations in surgery, especially in minor surgery. It is just the thing for the medical student.

Phonology.—A treatise on this subject by Dr. Andrew Comstock has reached us. Published by E. H. Butler & Co., Philadelphia. By a life's devotion to the subject, Dr. C. thinks he has perfected the phonetic alphabet. If any man can do it, Dr. C. can and has. We recommend the book to the intelligent, every where.

"*Introductory Address*, delivered at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, Oct. 16, 1855, by Jno. C. Dalton, Jun., M. D., Professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy." This address, which was published by the class, might have done very well as a *general* Introductory to the session of the College. The lecture exhibits much thought and care, and is highly creditable to Dr. Dalton, whose skill as a microscopist so well known among us. The College, in its new house, will doubtless "go up" rapidly.

"*Our Country's Mission in History*," by Wm. H. Allen. We have received and read with great pleasure, this very able Address, delivered before the Philomathean Society of Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg. Pa., published by the Society. It bears unmistakable evidence of being the production of a mind classically and scientifically educated, philosophical in its aspirations and actions, and governed withal by a high-toned morality, to which all the other faculties are subservient. The arguments of the address are ingenious and plausible, drawn from the histories of Greece, Rome, and modern Europe. The style is compact, smooth and manly, and the sentiments are those of a youthful, hopeful, but rational philosophy.

Necrology.

"A sleep without dreams, after a rough day
Of toil, is what we court most; and yet
How clay shrinks back from more quiescent clay."

Byron.

"This day we have followed the remains of our much respected fellow-citizen, and late beloved colleague, THEODORICK ROMEYN BECK, M. D., to the tomb. His fame and reputation as a scientific and useful member of our profession was wide-spread, and in his death, all feel that we have suffered a great loss and a sore affliction."—*Private Correspondence*.

M. MAGENDIE, the distinguished popular writer and experimenter, died in Paris, on the 7th of October, the day on which he attained his 72d year, of a chronic and painful disease of the heart. No man in France, during the last

half century, has performed a greater number of experiments upon living animals than he. Foreign students flocked in great numbers to his *Clinique* to observe the curious effects produced by his multiform experiments on living animals. He was a member of the Academy of Sciences and of Medicine, "Professor of Medicine in the Academy of France," President of the "Consulting Committee of Hygiene," and Commander of the "Legion of Honor." His obsequies took place in the magnificent church of the Madeleine, in the midst of a large concourse of distinguished Savans. The pall-bearers were M. M. Flourens and Serres, of the "Academy of Sciences;" Stanislas Julien, of the "Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres;" Villermé, of the "Academy of Moral and Political Sciences;" Dubois, Perpetual Secretary of the "Academy of Medicine," and Davenne, Director-General of the "Administration of Public Assistance."

Discourses were delivered over the tomb by M. Andral, M. Flourens, M. Dubois and M. Villermé.

M. QUEVENNE, "Pharmaceutist-in-Chief to La Charité," is also dead. His various writings on Pharmacy have made him well known to the American public.

PROF. ERNEST DIEFFENBACH, of the University of Giessen, died on the 1st of October.

Palæontology.—Dr. Isaac Lea, a distinguished geologist of Philadelphia, has recently published, from the press of the Collins Bros., a valuable work on the "Fossil Foot-Marks" which he discovered in the lowest beds of the coal formation at Pottsville, in 1849. The work is in large folio, and the plates represent the foot-prints of the oldest reptilian known to palæontologists (See LYELL'S *Elements*, Ed. of 1852, p. 340), of their natural size. This important publication is dedicated to the eminent professor, J. C. Warren, of Boston.—*Va. Med. and Sur. Jour.*

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